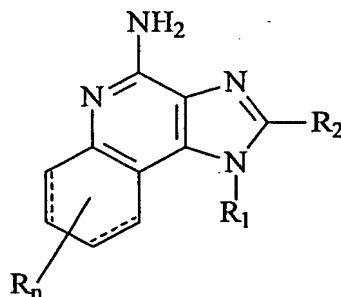


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula (I):



(I)

wherein

$\text{R}_1$  is  $-\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkyl- $\text{NR}_3$ -  $\text{SO}_2$  - $\text{X}$ - $\text{R}_4$  or  $-\text{C}_{2-6}$  alkyl- $\text{NR}_6$ - $\text{SO}_2$ - $\text{R}_7$ ;

$\text{X}$  is a bond or  $-\text{NR}_5$ -;

$\text{R}_4$  is alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

$\text{R}_2$  is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkenyl;

-aryl;

-substituted aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-substituted heteroaryl;

-alkyl-O-aryl;

- alkyl-O-alkyl;

- alkyl-O- alkenyl; and

- alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the

group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;  
 -N(R<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>;  
 -CO-N(R<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>;  
 -CO-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl;  
 -CO-O-C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl;  
 -N<sub>3</sub>;  
 -aryl;  
 -substituted aryl;  
 -heteroaryl;  
 -substituted heteroaryl;  
 -heterocyclyl;  
 -substituted heterocyclyl;  
 -CO-aryl;  
 -CO-(substituted aryl);  
 -CO-heteroaryl; and  
 -CO-(substituted heteroaryl);

each **R**<sub>3</sub> is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl;

**R**<sub>5</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl, or **R**<sub>4</sub> and **R**<sub>5</sub> can combine to form a 3 to 7 membered heterocyclic or substituted heterocyclic ring;

**R**<sub>6</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl;

**R**<sub>7</sub> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl, or **R**<sub>6</sub> and **R**<sub>7</sub> can combine to form a 3 to 7 membered heterocyclic or substituted heterocyclic ring;

**n** is 0 to 4 and each **R** present is independently selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-10</sub> alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound of claim 1 wherein X is a bond.

3. A compound of claim 2 wherein n is 0.

4. A compound of claim 2 wherein each R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen.

5. A compound of claim 2 wherein R<sub>4</sub> is alkyl

6. A compound of claim 2 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is selected from the group consisting of  
5 hydrogen, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O- C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl.

7. A compound of claim 2 wherein the dashed bonds are absent.

8. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

10 *N*-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-[4-(4-amino-2-propyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-[4-(4-amino-2-hexyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-[4-(4-amino-2-propyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;  
*N*-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;  
15 *N*-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;  
*N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]methanesulfonamide;  
*N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]benzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-[4-(4-amino-2-hexyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;  
20 *N*-{8-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]octyl}benzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-{8-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]octyl}methanesulfonamide;  
*N*-[8-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]methanesulfonamide;  
25 *N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]-5-(dimethylamino)naphthalene-1-sulfonamide;  
*N*-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}methanesulfonamide;  
30 *N*-[8-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]benzenesulfonamide;

- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-pentyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-pentyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 *N*-[8-(4-amino-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-(4-amino-2-pentyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide;
- 10 *N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(ethoxymethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]-2,2-dimethylpropyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}-5-
- 15 (dimethylamino)naphthalene-1-sulfonamide;
- N*-[3-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(ethoxymethyl)-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- 20 *N*-{3-[4-amino-2-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl} methanesulfonamide;
- N*-{4-[4-amino-2-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl} methanesulfonamide;
- 25 *N*-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]methanesulfonamide hydrochloride;
- N*-[2-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)ethyl]-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)ethyl]methanesulfonamide;
- 30 1-[4-(1,1-dioxidoisothiazolidin-2-yl)butyl]-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine;
- 2-butyl-1-[4-(1,1-dioxidoisothiazolidin-2-yl)butyl]-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine;

*N*-{2-[4-amino-2-(ethoxymethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]-1,1-dimethylethyl}methanesulfonamide;

*N*-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]ethanesulfonamide;

1-(2-amino-2-methylpropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-4-amine; and

5 *N*-{4-[4-amino-2-(cyclopropylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl}methanesulfonamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10 9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15 11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to the animal.

20

13. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 2 to the animal.

25 14. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of claim 8 to the animal.